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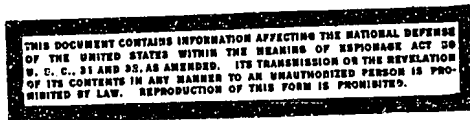
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TO SET UP FARMERS' EXCHANGE MARKETS

FARMERS GIVEN PRIORITIES -- T'usa Sinmun, 17 Jan 50

The North Korean government is attempting to solve the food problem in the cities by establishing farmers' exchange markets in all major cities in North Korea and by encouraging farmers to bring their produce into cities by giving them priorities and conveniences. The following is Cabinet Decision No 9 dated 11 January 1950, pertaining to the farmers' markets:

The cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has decided to establish farmers' markets for the purpose of facilitating the marketing of agricultural produce, exchanging of necessities between the urban populace and the rural populace, raising of the economic standard of workers and farmers, and maintaining frequent economic contacts between cities and farm villages. It has been decided that:

1. Farmers' markets shall be established in all major cities in North Korea, and shall be in operation by the first of March 1950. The responsibility for opening the markets without delay shall rest upon the chairman of the Provincial People's Committee in each province. The State Planning Board and the Ministry of Finance shall be jointly responsible for providing adequate funds and materials for establishing markets in each province.
2. Farmers' markets must be established in central locations for the convenience of the people, and they must be equipped with all the necessary facilities, including warehouses, and equipment, such as standard measuring scales.
3. The interior of the farmers' markets must be kept warm during winter. The state shall furnish charcoal and braziers.
4. The state stores and co-operative stores shall be established in the farmers markets under the control of the Ministry of Commerce. Farmers selling produce in these markets shall be given priority to purchase necessities at a discount from these stores.

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5. The provincial, county, and city people's committees shall facilitate shipping of farm produce, particularly meat products, into the farmers' markets.

6. The Office of Overland Transportation Administration of the Ministry of Transportation and the Ministry of Internal Affairs shall facilitate the marketing of produce by giving farmers priority in riding passenger trains with their products. Individual marketing by farmers must be encouraged, and for this purpose the authorities shall provide the farmers with all necessary conveniences. The above authorities shall also provide trucks to pick up farm produce from the roadsides in the suburban areas.

7. The cabinet assigns responsibility to the Ministry of Culture and Propaganda, and the chairmen of the provincial people's committees to disseminate information and educate the farmers in the economic and political significance of the farmers' markets so as to attain the desired ends from the operation thereof.

PROHIBITS TRADING OF PRODUCE BY NONFARMERS -- T'usa Sinmun, 17 Jan 50

The rules governing the farmers' markets, as formulated by Cabinet Decision No 9, are as follows:

1. The purpose of the present rules is to better the economic life of the working masses by facilitating the marketing of farm produce.

2. The existing marketing centers may be rearranged and made into farmers' markets, with the necessary facilities and equipment provided, so that farmers may conveniently bring in grains, meat, and other produce and freely trade them for daily necessities.

3. The farmers' markets shall be operated and supervised by the city people's committee concerned, which shall be responsible for the appointment of managers, standardization of weights and measures, and collection of taxes, for the farmers' markets.

4. In opening or closing a farmers' market the chairman of the people's committee involved must submit to the Ministry of Commerce, through the provincial people's committee concerned, a statement indicating the location, size, and other pertinent facts about the market, and the reasons for opening or closing the market.

5. Each farmers' market must be composed of the following separate markets for each type of commodity traded: grain market, meat market, fish market, cotton market, vegetable market, fuel market, miscellaneous commodities market.

6. Facilities such as cold storage for meat and fish and standard scales required by each type of market listed above must be adequately provided.

7. Trading of farm produce by persons other than farmers, or gaining of undue profits on farm produce by cornering or other techniques, is strictly prohibited in the farmers' markets.

8. A farmer selling produce in the farmers' markets shall receive a certificate from the chairman of the people's committee in the locality where he resides, and a receipt of sales from the manager of the farmers' market. With these certificates and receipts the farmer may then purchase goods at a discount from the state stores in the farmers' markets.

9. Users of the farmers' markets must pay rent at the prescribed rates.

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10. Persons who fall into one of the following categories shall be deprived of the privilege of using the farmers' markets, either entirely or partially:

- a. Violators of the foregoing rules.
- b. Persons who obtain undue profits through unfair practices, or who commit any acts which hinder the operation of the farmers' markets.
- c. Persons who sell harmful articles or foodstuff which imperils public health.
- d. Persons who violate public ethics, such as soiling, defiling, polluting, or damaging the market, or who create nuisances or commit any other acts which are detrimental to the public interest.
- e. Persons who failed to pay rent.
- f. Persons who commit acts other than those listed above which in any way hinder the operation of the farmers' markets.

PREPARE TO OPEN MARKETS -- Kaepyo Sinpo, 5 Feb 50

Preparations for establishing farmers' markets are progressing in P'yongyang and other cities. Two markets will be opened in P'yongyang, in accordance with Cabinet Decision No 9. Sites have been selected and surveys completed. One market will be constructed in front of the Hwangkum-i lottery in the southern sector of the city, and the other in front of the former Tongsin market in Taesin-i in the eastern sector of the city. Similar progress is being made in other cities throughout North Korea, so that the farmers' markets will be ready for business by the deadline set by the government.

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